

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A drum closure, comprising:

a top clamp configured with a top surface and a bottom surface and at least one threaded top clamp bolt hole extending through a body of the top clamp;

a base clamp configured with a bottom surface and at least one threaded base clamp bolt hole extending through a body of the bottom surface; and

a bolt inserted through the top clamp bolt hole and the base clamp bolt hole and configured to extend from a secured position to an unsecured position, wherein the bottom surface of the top clamp and the top surface of the base clamp are configured to form in unison a lip holding area for a drum and the top clamp and base clamp are configured to be inserted around a portion of a drum lid and drum body interface to secure the drum lid to the drum body, the base clamp configured to rotate from the top clamp in the unsecured position, wherein the base clamp has a fitting inserted into the base clamp to accept and secure the bolt, wherein the base clamp has a separate penetration from the base clamp hole, the separate penetration housing the fitting wherein the lip holding area is configured in an approximately circular geometry, wherein the top clamp has a rounded knuckle on the bottom surface, the rounded knuckle configured to abut a drum lid body interface.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Original) The drum closure according to claim 1, wherein the top clamp, the base clamp and the bolt are made of non-corrosive material.

4. (Original) The drum closure according to claim 4, wherein the non-corrosive material is stainless steel.

5. (Original) The drum closure according to claim 1, wherein the bolt is less than 1 inch in diameter.

6. (Original) The drum closure according to claim 1, wherein the top clamp is configured with a hardened seat around the at least one threaded top clamp bolt hole.

7. (Cancelled) .

8. (Currently Amended) A method of closing a drum, comprising:

providing three drum closure arrangements;

positioning a top clamp with a rounded knuckle on a bottom surface of each of the three drum closure arrangements on a drum lid interface;

positioning a base clamp of each of the three drum closure arrangements on the drum lid interface;

inserting a bolt through the top clamp into the base clamp; and

tightening the bolt such that the top clamps and the base clamps form a lip holding area wherein the bolt enters into the base clamp and is captured by a fitting provided in the base clamp, wherein the base clamp has a separate penetration from the base clamp hole, the separate penetration housing the fitting for the bolt and the positioning of the top clamp and the base clamp provides a lip holding area that is configured in an approximately circular geometry to secure the drum.

9. (Original) The method of closing a drum according to claim 8, wherein the top and base clamps are positioned over a drum closure ring.